



NASIG Newsletter

North American Serials Interest Group

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President's Corner

Steve Shadle, NASIG President

Another three months come and gone in the blink of an eye and another President's column to write. I'm more and more of the belief that time goes faster as you grow older. I don't mean my perception of time...I mean the second hand really is spinning around the clock faster than it did when I was a kid!

So what's happened in the last three months? The NASIG Executive Board met at ALA Midwinter. Minutes are included in this issue of the Newsletter but I'd like to highlight a few NASIG activities that were discussed at the meeting.

Continuing Education

Over the last several months, CEC has been working hard on evaluating webinar services and putting together a proposal for the Board to review. At the meeting, the Board approved a trial subscription to WebEx (pending confirmation on some questions from the Board) with one webinar to be scheduled in the early spring and an additional three to four webinars to be scheduled over the coming year. I believe the Board should be all about providing value for your NASIG membership and this is another way that I hope we are able to do that. More on the webinars as details come forward.

Core Competencies Task Force

Last year Katy Ginanni appointed a group (led by Sarah Sutton) with the charge: "To develop a statement for NASIG's endorsement that describes core competencies

for serials and electronic resources librarians." The Board recently reviewed a first draft of the competencies statement and we are all very pleased with what the Task Force has produced. When the task force is finished with some minor tweaking, they will distribute the statement on NASIG-L for discussion. This statement of core competencies will also be the topic of this year's conference brainstorming session. I am hopeful that this statement will serve as a framework for revising NASIG's mission and vision statements and that it can also be useful in focusing our publications and continuing education efforts. Please keep an eye out for this announcement and contribute to the discussion.

Contingency Planning Discussion

As part of our contingency planning activity, the Contingency Planning Task Force will be distributing a series of questions for discussion on NASIG-L. The task force will collect the thoughts, ideas, and questions generated in these discussions and compile them into reports for the Executive Board. Your participation in these conversations will help guide the future direction of the organization. Please consider taking some time to contribute your thoughts, concerns and questions.

Election Slate

As Katy mentioned in the President's Column a year ago, the March issue always includes a mention of the election slate and a reminder to vote in the upcoming election. I am very pleased with the slate of candidates

that Nominations & Elections have put together this year and can only repeat Katy's request from last year:

I do encourage all of you to cast your ballot when the election opens. The candidates who are standing for election are willing to volunteer a lot of time to NASIG; I hope many of you will spend a few minutes of your time to help choose the leaders of our organization.

Enough said!

Conference Planning

By now, you will have all seen the conference announcement. Conference and Program Planning

have done yeoman's work to bring you an affordable conference that will keep you up-to-date with current trends and strategies as well as providing you with great networking opportunities. As I mentioned in the last issue, this year's conference will be one of the best ever, but we are recommending attendees make their travel plans early. More information is available at the conference website:

http://www.nasig.org/conference_registration.cfm

See y'all in Nashville!

[Editor's note: As a native of Kentucky, I approve Steve's use of southern dialect.]